



The Bulletin

Published by the Society of the New York Hospital

Vol. 1.

SEPTEMBER 1935

Issue 5

WILSON M. POWELL

Wilson Marcy Powell, our beloved president, died on the evening of Saturday, August 17th, following a brief illness. With his passing, another life has been added to that great human memorial, the structure of consecrated effort which has been reared over more than a century and a half by those distinguished citizens who have devoted their lives to the advancement of this Hospital.

With Payne Whitney, the great benefactor of the Hospital, and Edward W. Sheldon, Mr. Powell's predecessor as president, Mr. Powell was one of the three governors of the Hospital who were primarily responsible for bringing into being the great medical group which has insured the continuation and advancement of the Hospital's traditional position as one of the world's great centers of healing, of medical teaching and of research.

Mr. Powell, our twenty-fifth President, came first into the service of the New York Hospital as a young man. Shortly after he entered the practice of law in New York City, in 1899, following his graduation from Harvard College and the Harvard Law School, he assisted his father, Wilson Marcy Powell, Sr., who had been counsel to the Hospital since 1876. In 1915 he succeeded his father in this position.

Long before there was any public intimation of the great plans for the present medical group of the Hospital, Mr. Powell was engaged in preparing the

way for this project. He had charge of all the details of the exceedingly difficult work of acquiring for Mr. Whitney the many small parcels of land which were eventually consolidated into the site on which the buildings of the Hospital now stand. With Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Whitney and Dr. Livingston Farrand, he conducted the negotiations which brought about the association of Cornell University Medical College. As a member of the Joint Administrative Board of the Hospital and of the University he took part in shaping the organization, aims and ideals of a unified program for care of the sick, teaching and research so that the Hospital might not only provide the best of care for its own patients but also exert an influence for the advancement of medicine which would be felt wherever the modern practice of prevention and healing is found.

The bringing together of the Lying-In Hospital, The Manhattan Maternity and Dispensary and the New York Nursery and Childs Hospital within the New York Hospital group was another of the series of great accomplishments in which he participated.

In the most difficult years of the depression, when economic forces were threatening to thwart many of the high aims embodied in the Hospital's program, Mr. Powell took the leadership in steadily advancing its progress. Under him the scope of its work was greatly enlarged and the economy and efficiency of its operation was increased. The

example of his courage gave courage to others. His kindly understanding, tact, wisdom and devoted effort overcame differences of opinion and engendered a spirit of unselfish service throughout the institution.

During his career Mr. Powell became one of the leaders of the bar. He did much to strengthen and increase the usefulness of the Bar Association of the City of New York, in which he was active for many years as an officer and a trustee. He was prominent also in The American Law Institute and other national organizations to advance the codification of the laws and the standards of its practice. Harvard Law School was indebted to him for leadership of the campaign which in 1927 greatly increased its endowment. He was for many years the president of the corporation of Swarthmore College and was active in greatly increasing the endowment which supported the notable development of this college under President Frank Aydelotte. He was also a member and secretary of the board of Trustees of the New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundation. He also served as a trustee, officer or valued counsellor of many other organizations for advancement of education and public welfare. Among these were the Arnold Arboretum and the Bussey Institute at Harvard, Bennington College, the Roosevelt Hospital, the Schofield Normal and Industrial School of Aiken, South Carolina, the Taconic State Park Commission, the Prison Associa-

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NEW YORK HOSPITAL—162 YEARS AGO

At a meeting of the Board of Governors of the New York Hospital held at Hull's Tavern August 10th, 1773, the following minute was adopted:

Upon a proposal of the Committee for building the Hospital, to raise the lower floors of the Wings for the purpose of giving light to the Cellars, the Board conceive that such alterations may be expedient, and they are wholly referred to the said Committee, together with such Deviations from the plan respecting the Enlargement and Addition of Fire places, and the widening the Passages of the Stair Cases, as they may think proper, any former Vote of this Board to the contrary notwithstanding.

144 YEARS AGO

At a meeting of the Board of Governors of the New York Hospital, held at the Hospital on the 8th day of September 1791, the following minute was adopted:

Ordered That a Stable be erected for the use of the Hospital, on the line of the Land of the Hospital, so as that the north side of it range with the Fence now standing on said Land, and the East side with the Garden Fence.

Ordered That John Murray, Jacob Watson, Samuel Jones, John Lawrence and Lawrence Embree be a Committee to form an estimate of the Annual Sum necessary to support the Hospital, and to devise a plan for the future support of the Institution and Report thereon with all convenient speed.

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tion of New York, the Colored Orphan Association for Benefit of Colored Children in New York City, and the New York Diet Kitchen.

Mr. Powell was also a leading figure in the Society of Friends, and practiced in his life that unostentatious devotion to God, through service to mankind, so characteristic of the faith.

In an institution such as the New York Hospital, the spirit of devotion, wise and kindly understanding, and ability to work together for a cause which transcends all individual interest is of far greater importance than buildings and equipment. It was this living spirit of the Hospital that Wilson Powell nurtured and made stronger. In it his example and the influence of his work will live on.

The Hospital management has been so organized that its plans for future development will be continued under the direction of the Executive Committee.

JAMES BUCHANAN BRADY FOUNDATION

Several members of the Staff of the Department of Urology, James Buchanan Brady Foundation of the New York Hospital, attended the annual meeting of the American Urological Association in San Francisco, Cal., three of whom were on the program for papers in experimental urological problems.

Among the distinguished visitors to our department during the past month were: Dr. Colin Luke Begg, one of the original members of the American Urological Association; Dr. F. Glenn Irwin, San Juan, Porto Rico; Dr. Charles Mathé, San Francisco, Cal., Chairman of the Urological Section of the Pan American Medical Association, now having its second annual floating congress; Dr. J. G. Iwing, Toronto, Canada; Dr. H. Dobal, Habana, Cuba; Dr. J. A. Seaman, formerly a post graduate in our Out-Patient Department and now in Springfield, Mass.; Mr. V. Prosen, Tunis, North Africa; Dr. L. S. Nelson, Salina, Kansas; Prof. R. Pazos, Lima, Peru; Capt. and Mrs. H. V. Rowe, Cristobal, Canal Zone; Commander C. S. Andrus, Naval Hospital, Washington, D. C., Commander J. A. Topper, Naval Hospital, Washington, D. C., Dr. A. L. Rowe, Lake

Worth, Fla.; Mr. C. S. Whitaker, Duke University, Medical School, Durham, N. C.; Dr. Runyon, Panama, R. P.; Mr. Norton, Buenos Aires, Argentine, and A. L. Ellis, Mexico City, Mexico.

Dr. G. A. Fiedler, Chief of Clinic, is making a trip to Alaska, during his summer vacation. During his absence his duties will be performed by Dr. F. A. Steinmetz. A member of our Staff toured Nova Scotia and visited hospitals in Halifax, Kentville and Truro. Another member made a trip to Honolulu, Hawaii. These members of the staff will give a report in the nature of a Medical Travelogue at the first meeting of the Department which will be held in October.

One of the members of our department was made an Honorary Member of the Peruvian Urological Society and was presented with a beautiful hand embossed diploma, set in a carved silver frame all of which was original work of Inca artisans.

The text book of Urology for Nurses written by two members of our Department has been finished and will be submitted for publication immediately. It should appear in print very shortly.

BLOOMINGDALE HOSPITAL

The water supply from the wells on the Bloomingdale Hospital property is now sufficient for all the needs of the Hospital. Four new wells have recently been driven, adding to the potable supply of water by 33 per cent. There are now four dug wells and twenty driven wells, the latter having been driven since 1931. A saving of thousands of dollars annually has resulted from this installation.

Doctor Edwin J. Doty completed his two two years' service as Assistant Resident Physician at the Hospital on July 31st.

Doctor Donald M. Hamilton was appointed an Assistant Resident Physician on the staff of the Hospital as of August 1st. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He comes to Bloomingdale from the Strong Memorial Hospital of Rochester where he has been a Resident Physician during the past year and an Associate Resident in Medicine in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Rochester School of Medicine.

Doctor Morton L. Wadsworth was appointed an Assistant Resident Physician on the staff of the Hospital as of July 22nd. He is a graduate of the University of Chicago School of Medicine and has recently completed a year's internship at the Woodlawn Hospital, Chicago.

John W. Mackintosh, instructor of printing in the Men's Occupational Therapy Department, retired on August 1st after twenty-one years of service.

Hall Six East, Women's Department, which was formerly occupied by graduate nurses, has been renovated and opened for women patients. This increases the capacity of the Women's Department by twelve beds.

NOTICES

IN THE INTEREST OF SAFETY AND ECONOMY

During the past year, several of the employees of the Housekeeping Department

suffered severe cuts due to discarded safety razor blades, broken glass and sharp instruments having been thrown in the waste paper baskets.

For the benefit of those who are not aware of the fact that all the rubbish and waste paper that is collected from the various waste baskets is put into canvas bags and sent down the rubbish chutes (indicated by the letter "R") located in every building on each floor, may we suggest for the safety of the employees handling said rubbish that all razor blades, broken glass, sharp instruments, etc. to be discarded are put in a closed container or wrapped in heavy paper before being thrown in the waste baskets, bags, etc. This would prevent such accidents and the loss of time on the part of the employee so injured.

Since the canvas bags used for this purpose are expensive items, it would be a great saving to this department, if the above precautionary measures were carried out.

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

Sally Ann, Charles, Bobby and all the other patients in the Children's Clinic will soon be making friends with such delightful characters as Little Black Sambo, Flopsy, Mopsy, Cottontail and Peter, Christopher Robin and the Elephant's Child who went to find out what the crocodile had for dinner.

For such pleasures they offer thanks to all those who attended, or in any way supported, the Peach Festival of August 14th. On that occasion about one hundred and fifty guests were served, yielding proceeds amounting to \$36.00 which have been used for additions to the children's library.

DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION

In order to serve patients with food which is appetizingly hot and fresh, the sometimes more than human frailties of the old-fashioned dumb-waiters have been superseded in the new building of the New York Hospital by a technical mechanism which responds to the commands of light.

It is a heated food elevator known as a "trayveyor," which runs between the six floors of the Private Pavilion. The heated food trays are stopped at the different floors by means of a beam of light across the shaft which is intercepted by a photo-electric cell or "eye" at the level for which the food is destined. This shuts off and turns on the lifting motor. The electric "eyes" are controlled from a central station so trays may be sent to any floor without being interfered with by persons on other floors. A red light over each shaft opening gives notice that a tray is approaching.

SOCIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

A boy of twelve was much depressed over the loss of his sister, who died recently of heart trouble in our Hospital. He was sent, through the Social Service Department, to a special camp and the following letter has just been received from him:

Dear Miss———

I am home now from my 3 weeks vacation at camp. They were the happiest days I have ever enjoyed and I wish to thank you and your good kind friends who made it possible for me.

We were camped near a lake on Iona Island in tents. Our camp was made up of 3 wooden shacks and 2 large tents. Every day we got up at 7:45, had a good breakfast at 8 A.M. and passed the morning until 11 A.M. in general cleanup.

Each A.M. at 11 o'clock we went swimming until 12 noon.

We had dinner at 1 P.M. and then we would all go to the candy store to buy what we wanted returning to camp to rest for 1 hour.

From 2:30 until 4 P.M. we played outdoor games. From 4 to 5 P.M. was swimming hour.

We had supper at 6 P.M. After supper we went fishing until 8:30 but I must confess that I am not much of a fisherman. The food was plentiful and very good.

In closing may I say "thank you and your friends again" for your kindness in allowing me to enjoy such a nice vacation and I'll remember you in my prayers.

Respectfully,

John E.———

OUT PATIENT DEPARTMENT

The statistical report of the Out-Patient Department for the month of July showed a greater number of new patients admitted than during the preceding month of June, this year, and also higher than for the month of July, 1934.

In spite of the long period of hot weather there has been an active demand for treatment in the various clinics.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE

Sterilizers are important equipment in modern hospitals. In the New York Hospital there are more than two hundred sterilizers, such as instrument sterilizers, utensil sterilizers are heated by steam with the exception of a few electric instrument sterilizers. There are two types of pressure sterilizers, such as autoclaves which have a single wall and are not steam jacketed and do not include the vacuum system for rapid evacuation and drying. Wet steam rather than dry steam as attained by steam jacketing is needed for certain common laboratory processes, and in the sterilization of media it is necessary to exhaust the pressure very slowly to avoid the vigorous ebullition which would result from vacuum exhaust.

Another type is the steam jacketed pressure sterilizer for instruments, rubber gloves and dressings. In sterilizing instruments the sterilizing period is much less than that for dressings since the instruments present no compact mass of material to retard the passage of steam. Surfaces of instruments are perfectly accessible to steam and the period for sterilizing need not be more than 5 to 10 minutes at pressures between 15 and 20 pounds.

The pressure method is considered preferable to the older boiling process because

it subjects instruments to a steam temperature of 250 to 259°F against a maximum possible temperature of 212°F in boiling water. The process is less injurious to delicate instruments because it avoids deposits of natural water impurities, such as lime, upon their surfaces.

The door protects the nurse from premature opening even if she tries the door. When in use the safety lock holds until the pressure is safely exhausted.

All piping is engineered to avoid definitely all possibility of sterilizer contamination from the drainage system.

Non-pressure instrument and non-pressure utensil sterilizers are similar in construction both sterilizing by immersion of instruments or utensils in boiling water. The water is heated by a steam coil in the bottom of the sterilizer. The waste from each sterilizer contains an open air break so designed that water from drain system can neither be forced back nor drawn back into the reservoir.

The excess steam that the non-pressure sterilizer exhausts is disposed of by the use of a condenser exhaust attached to the back of the sterilizer. It uses a small stream of cold water which in passing through the condenser creates a suction withdrawing the steam, condensing it and exhausting it into the waste. This condenser will not dispose of all steam if the sterilizer is not operated correctly. The steam valve has a red arrow marked on it. When this arrow points up the valve is fully opened. When the water in the sterilizer begins to boil the valve should be turned one-quarter turn to the left. This cuts down the flow of steam so as to keep the water at its proper temperature. With the valve in this position the condenser will take care of all excess steam given off by the sterilizer. The condenser, however, will not carry off the steam if the steam valve is left in its fully opened position. This results in the walls in back of the sterilizer becoming saturated with moisture and defacing and destroying the paint on the wall.

LAUNDRY DEPARTMENT

One of the New York Hospital's service departments often overlooked, as it is located far from the center of activities across 70th Street on the second, third and fourth floors of the Power House building, is the Hospital Laundry. Nevertheless, this department supplies one of the most important items in patients' care, clean linen, and clothing for patients and attendants.

If one has never visited a modern laundry plant it would be well to arrange a visit to our own. There you will see soiled linen being counted and listed as coming from the many pavilions so that the amount of each item used on that pavilion can be totaled daily.

A conveyer belt carries this linen to a point from which it is sorted into chutes built into the floor, and at a given signal dumps it through into the mammoth washers below. These four washers are made of monel metal and each holds 750 pounds of soiled linen. There are in addition five small washers. The washing formulas include eight changes of water, three suds and five rinses.

Next one will see four large centrifugal extractors that whirl the linen dry enough to iron. The aluminum basket lining of these extractors is lifted out by an electric crane for dumping and refilling.

This in itself is a spectacular sight.

Passing on we see the mammoth fluff dry tumblers softening bath towels as they are dried. Then the row of presses where uniforms are finished.

Downstairs on the second floor we find a blanket stretcher, more presses, and then three flat work ironers, often erroneously referred to as mangles. These are the largest of their kind and are operated continuously.

Finally the linen is finished and we pass into the circulating linen room where linen is stored until the time for delivery to the many small linen rooms on each floor.

When we look at this very large room full of linen and realize that only about one-third of the total amount used in this Hospital is here at one time we see why the following figures are possible:

We handle about 2,500 tons of soiled laundry a year, or in other words, about 8,000,000 pieces. If one person had to launder this amount all alone, working eight hours a day, he would be steadily employed for nearly a century.

However, with modern machinery it becomes an everyday task, and we are striving continuously to better the laundry service in our Hospital.